PATENT

DOCKET NO.: BMS-2204 (DM-6950)

Application No.: 10/033,769

Office Action Dated: October 1, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 15, 17-22, 27, 29-34, 39, 41-46, and 66-87 are pending.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 1, 3-9, 15, 17-22, 27, 39, and 66-86 are allowable over the elected species and "EXP #1" presented by the Examiner. However, as noted by the Examiner, the full scope of all the pending claims has not been searched. In the most recent Office Action, the search was stopped since a rejection was tendered against Claim 87.

Without comment on the rejection (which is now moot by amendment), Claim 87 has been amended to remove "P" from the definition of A. Applicants wish to explain that they are not surrendering coverage for embodiments where A is P, to the contrary, it is present in Claim 1. Rather, this amendment to Claim 87, which may be broader in some respects than Claim 1, is intended to hasten the species by species search process, so that the full scope of the claims may be searched in as few future Office Action/Response cycles as possible to reduce costs and further delays in issuance.

If the Examiner has any questions, she is invited to call the undersigned.

Date:

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Brian J. Hubbard

Registration No. 45,873

Woodcock Washburn LLP One Liberty Place - 46th Floor

Philadelphia PA 19103

Telephone: (215) 568-3100

Facsimile: (215) 568-3439